

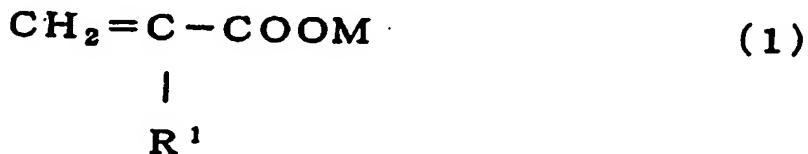
Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-7. (Canceled)

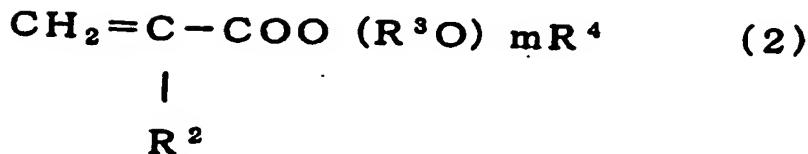
8. (New) A cement dispersant comprising a water-soluble amphoteric copolymer, or a partly or a fully neutralized salt thereof, the copolymer being formed by copolymerizing a monomer mixture containing as a main monomer component, at least one compound (compound A) obtained by addition of 0 to 8 moles of an alkylene oxide having 2 to 4 carbon atoms with respect to one equivalent of amino residues of a polyamide polyamine obtained by condensation of 1.0 mole of a polyalkylene polyamine, 0.5 to 0.95 mole of a dibasic acid or an ester of the dibasic acid with a lower alcohol having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and 0.05 to 0.70 moles of acrylic acid or methacrylic acid, or an ester of acrylic acid or methacrylic acid with a lower alcohol having 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

at least one compound (compound B) represented by general formula (1)



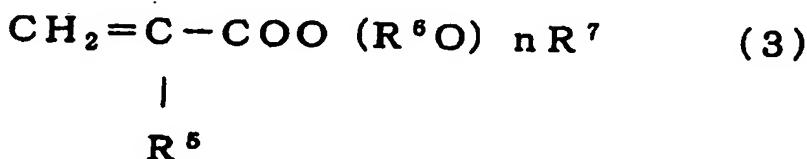
wherein R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, and M represents a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal, an alkali earth metal, an ammonium group, or an alkanolammonium;

at least one compound (compound C) represented by general formula (2)



wherein R^2 represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, R^3 represents an alkylene group having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, R^4 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and m represents the number of addition molecules of a polyalkylene glycol and is an integer of 1 to 35; and

at least one compound (compound D) represented by general formula (3)



wherein R^5 represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, R^6 represents an alkylene group having 2 to 4 carbon atoms, R^7 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and n represents the number of addition molecules of a polyalkylene glycol and is an integer of 40 to 100,

wherein, when the total of the compounds A to D is set to be 100 percent by weight, the water-soluble amphoteric copolymer is obtained by copolymerizing 5 to 25 percent by weight of the compound A, 5 to 30 percent by weight of the compound B, 5 to 40 percent by weight of the compound C, and 20 to 80 percent by weight of the compound D.

9. (New) The cement dispersant according to Claim 8, wherein, when the number of molecules of the dibasic acid or the ester of dibasic acid with a lower alcohol having 1 to 4 carbon atoms is represented by x , and the number of molecules of acrylic acid

or methacrylic acid, or the ester of acrylic acid or methacrylic acid with a lower alcohol having 1 to 4 carbon atoms is represented by y with respect to 1 molecule of the polyalkylene polyamine, conditions of the following equation:

$$0.6 < y/(1-x) < 1.4$$

are satisfied.

10. (New) A concrete admixture for mortar and concrete, comprising a mixture which contains the cement dispersant according to Claim 8 and at least one additive for mortar and concrete selected from the group consisting of a cement dispersant different from said cement dispersant, a defoaming agent, and an air-entraining agent.

11. (New) A concrete composition comprising the cement dispersant according to Claim 8.

12. (New) A concrete composition comprising the concrete admixture for mortar and concrete according to Claim 10.

13. (New) The concrete composition according to Claim 11, wherein the concrete composition is used for ultrahigh performance concrete.

14. (New) A concrete admixture for mortar and concrete, comprising a mixture which contains the cement dispersant according to Claim 9 and at least one additive for mortar and concrete selected from the group consisting of a cement dispersant different from said cement dispersant, a defoaming agent, and an air-entraining agent.

15. (New) A concrete composition comprising the cement dispersant according to Claim 9.

16. (New) The concrete composition according to Claim 12, wherein the concrete composition is used for ultrahigh performance concrete.